City Announces Open House to Share Think B.I.G. Program Details

To get the word out and share additional information with interested property owners about its new "Think B.I.G" (Brown Is Green) Initiative, the City of Gahanna is hosting an Open House at 6 p.m. on Thursday, October 8 at City Hall, 200 South Hamilton Road, Gahanna.

The Think B.I.G Initiative is a loan program recently created by the City and backed by a \$1 million Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund grant from U.S. EPA. Through this program, the City can assist in the cleanup and reuse of brownfield properties by providing low-interest loans – or even a sub-grant to an eligible non-profit organization – to help property owners identify and mitigate environmental challenges while spurring new economic investment in these sites.

Any public or private entity with control of, or access to, a brownfield site is eligible if the property is within Gahanna's city limits and meets U.S. EPA eligibility requirements.

Development Department program staff and representatives from Hull & Associates, the City's environmental consulting firm, will be on-hand during the Open House to explain the program, share information about the application process and answer questions about potential property and project eligibility.

Information about the Think B.I.G. program and the application process is available online at: <a href="http://www.gahanna.gov/departments/development/brownfields.asp">http://www.gahanna.gov/departments/development/brownfields.asp</a>. In addition, the City has posted a link to the Preliminary Application for interested property owners and/or applicants at: <a href="http://www.gahanna.gov/pdf/Development/preliminary\_application.pdf">http://www.gahanna.gov/pdf/Development/preliminary\_application.pdf</a>.

For more information about the program or the upcoming Open House, please contact Matt Huffman with the Department of Planning and Development at 614.342.4018 or *matt.huffman@gahanna.gov.*